



Following publication of my article on H.M. Stationery Office Perfin dies in Bulletin 206, further examples of the mysterious die No. 3 have come to light. You will recall this can be easily identified as the horizontal bar of the 'H' has two holes, compared with only one in the other two dies. The first known example is the one with trimmed perforations illustrated in the Tilles Catalogue 520.2 which must have been dated prior to the catalogue's publication date of 1975. Another example is in the collection of a member in North America and is on a 4d Machin stamp. A member from Holland has furnished me with details of this die on a 2d. Machin (ie used during the period 1968-71). Four copies of the die have been reported from Eastern Europe, all on the sterling Machin 4d vermilion SG 733 (centre-phosphor band) which was issued on 20.2. 1969, being withdrawn in 1971. These stamps all have the barred "London FS" postmark and it may be significant that they have been reported from abroad.

The evidence points to recent use but extensive enquiries at the Stationery Office have failed to provide evidence of this so it may not originate there, though it is difficult to imagine anyone else using these particular initials.

Can any of you provide any further information?